

THE COUNTY RECORD

KINGSTREE, S. C.

LOUIS J. BRISTOW, Ed. & Prop'r.

FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.

The State Board Fixes the Regulations.

At an adjourned meeting of the State Board of Education, held in Mr. Mayfield's office in Columbia last week, the following is the official report of the proceedings: Members of the county board of education were appointed as follows:

Berkeley County—H. K. Jenkins. Georgetown County—T. B. Bamby, A. J. Stokes. Hampton County—John T. Morrison. Fairfield County—W. S. Hall, Jr. and J. G. McCants. Aiken County—J. Furman Barnes, Ellington.

Section 8 of the rules and regulations were amended so as to read as follows: "Should a vacancy occur in the office of county superintendent of education it shall be filled by the chairman and secretary of the board, subject to its approval at its next meeting."

Section 15 was amended so as to read as follows: "There shall be but two grades of teachers' county certificates, a first grade and a second grade, the latter being divided into Class 'A' and Class 'B.'"

Section 24 was amended so as to read as follows: "No teacher shall be employed by a board of trustees who is related by consanguinity or affinity within the second degree to a member of the board of trustees or to a principal of a school without the written approval of the county board of education, nor shall they employ a teacher holding a certificate issued by a county board of another county until the certificate has been duly registered in the office of the county superintendent of education of their own county."

Section 11 was amended so as to read as follows: "All scholarships for the State institutions to be awarded during the year 1897 for the scholastic year 1897-'98, shall be awarded on competitive examinations to be held on the second Friday in August, 1897, under the rules and regulations of the respective institutions. If for any reason the scholarships be not awarded, or accepted, or the beneficiaries not attend, the scholarship fund to which they are entitled shall remain to the credit of the county."

The many propositions made to the board for the furnishing of charts and supplies were duly considered and resulted in the listing of Evans' arithmetical chart and the Franklin Publishing Company's Language chart; permission was given to F. M. Sheridan to sell certain other supplies.

Other important work was discussed by the board and referred to the proper committees with instruction to report thereon at the next meeting of the board.

Governor Ellerbe, as chairman of the board, made the following report: "I beg to report that I have appointed standing committees as follows:

"Committee on Rules and Regulations—Julian Mitchell, A. R. Banks, W. N. Marchant, W. F. Clayton and J. I. McCain. "Committee on Examinations and Certificates—H. T. Cook, J. I. McCain, A. M. Babin, and A. R. Banks. "Committee on Text-books and Courses of Study—J. I. McCain, H. T. Cook, W. N. Marchant and Julian Mitchell. "Committee on School Supplies, Charts, Maps, etc.—A. R. Banks, W. N. Marchant, H. T. Cook and W. N. Marchant. "Committee on Scholarships—W. F. Clayton, Julian Mitchell and A. M. Babin."

TEACHER'S EXAMINATIONS

Will Take Place in Each County on June 25.

The following circular letter has been issued by the Superintendent of Education.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 19, 1897.

To County Superintendent of Education.

Dear Sir: The next examination of applicants for your board for teachers' county certificates will be held on Friday, the 25th day of June next. Please give the proper notice. I suggest that you give this notice as early as practicable, and repeat it as often as you can.

I will send you a printed copy of the rules and regulations just as soon as I can get them ready for distribution.

The law requires your board to appoint trustees for all the school districts in your county on the first Tuesday in July. I suggest that your board take up this matter at your meeting on June 25, and get things in shape. Where no changes are to be made, by resolution of your board, passed on July 2nd, those in office may be permitted to hold over, under the law, until their successors are appointed and qualified. A resolution of this kind would perhaps save you some trouble and expense. Should your board afterwards so determine, you can appoint successors to any of the holdover members at any time and make the new appointments terminate on the first Tuesday in July, 1898.

Send me the names and postoffice addresses of your trustees, if you have not already done so. If you make any change, please inform me of the changes in the list after July 2, and whenever a change is made.

I will forward to you in a few days (by express) the necessary blanks for trustees' annual reports. Please transmit them to the trustees. You will have to give some personal attention to the making up of these reports by the trustees.

When all of the trustees' reports are received by you, make up, by school districts, the enrollment and average attendance in each district and enter the same in your cash book, so as to preserve a record for easy reference.

Yours truly, W. D. MAYFIELD, State Superintendent of Education.

American Feet Are Small. American women will be gratified to learn that an experienced Parisian saleswoman considers that after the women of Madrid, Peru and Chili they have the smallest feet of any nation in the world. The best shaped feet in Northern Europe are in Sweden.

FOR AMERICANS IN CUBA.

The President Asks Congress for \$50,000 for Relief of the Destitute.

SENATE GRANTS THE REQUEST.

The Upper House Passes a Joint Resolution Appropriating \$50,000 for the Distressed Citizens of This Country—Action of the House—Bailey, of Texas, Offers a Belligerency Resolution.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—President McKinley sent to Congress a message recommending an appropriation of not less than \$50,000 for the relief of starving Americans in Cuba. The Senate promptly passed Mr. Gellinger's joint resolution appropriating \$50,000 for the purpose. In the House Mr. Bailey objected to the resolution unless unanimous consent were given to an amendment recognizing Cuban belligerency. The resolution went over. The President's message is as follows:

"To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States: "Official information from our Consuls in Cuba establishes the fact that a large number of American citizens in the island are in a state of destitution, suffering for want of food and medicines. This applies particularly to the rural districts of the central and eastern parts. "The agricultural classes have been forced from their farms into the nearest towns, where they are without work or money. "The local authorities of the several towns, however kindly disposed, are unable to relieve the needs of their own people, and are altogether powerless to help our citizens. "The latest report of Consul-General Lee estimates six to eight hundred are without means of support. I have assured him that provision would be made at once to relieve them. To that end I recommend that Congress make an appropriation of not less than \$50,000 to be immediately available for use under the direction of the Secretary of State. "It is desirable that a part of the sum which may be appropriated by Congress should, in the discretion of the Secretary of State, also be used for the transportation of American citizens who, desiring to return to the United States, are without means to do so. WILLIAM MCKINLEY. "Executive Mansion, May 17, 1897."

The sending of the President's message was preceded by a special cabinet meeting, at which Senator Davis and Representative Hitt were present.

As soon as the President's message had been read in the Senate, Mr. Davis of Minnesota, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, favorably reported, with amendments, the resolution introduced by Mr. Gallinger, appropriating \$50,000 for the relief of destitute citizens of the United States in Cuba. The resolution as amended, is as follows:

"Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, that the sum of \$50,000 be and the same hereby is appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated for the relief of destitute citizens of the United States in the island of Cuba, said money to be expended, at the discretion and under the direction of the President of the United States, in the purchase and furnishing of food, clothing and medicines to such citizens and for transporting to the United States such of them as so desire and who are without means to transport themselves. "Mr. Davis asked for immediate consideration of the resolution, and there was no objection. The only speech made was that of Mr. Gallinger, who spoke briefly. The resolution was then put on its passage, and without division it passed unanimously, there being no response to the call for the yeas. It had taken exactly eighteen minutes for the reading of the message, and the brief speech and the final passage of the resolution.

When the message had been read in the House, Mr. Hitt, former Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, at once introduced a bill for the appropriation of \$50,000 for fuel and transportation for the Cubans. Mr. Bailey, of Texas, objected to immediate consideration, unless an amendment embodying Senator Morgan's resolution for recognition of the insurgents was added. Mr. Dingley objected to the amendment, whereupon Mr. Bailey objected to the resolution, and the Cuban question was sidetracked. Advocates of the belligerency resolution believe that if it could be brought before the House it would be impossible for the leaders of the majority to hold their side together against it, and they propose to attach it to the relief resolution as an amendment.

THORNTON'S WOUND FATAL.

He Shot Himself Because Miss Smith Rejected His Suit.

Preston Thornton, who shot himself in the parlor of Milton H. Smith's residence, in Louisville, Ky., died from the effects of the wound. His father and mother, from Lexington, were by his side when death came. Mr. Thornton was a member of one of the leading families of Lexington. Milton H. Smith is President of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, and his only daughter, Nettie Belle Smith, had rejected young Thornton.

Chapman in Jail. Elverton B. Chapman, the Sugar Trust witness who refused to answer a United States Senate committee's questions as to whether he had acted as a broker for any Senators in speculations in Sugar Trust, occupies a cell at the District Jail, Washington, and will continue therein for twenty-five days. Chapman surrendered himself to United States Marshal Wilson, in accordance with an understanding previously reached.

Edhem Pacha Takes Domokos. The special correspondents with the Turkish forces in Thessaly say: "Edhem Pacha has moved on from point to point, and finally occupied Domokos. The Greeks have sustained a crushing defeat."

Bubonic Plague Increases. The bubonic plague is making fearful ravages in the Cutchmandi district of India, where there have been 2000 deaths in a fortnight. Half the population has fled.

12,000 Men Working on Louisiana Levees. There are now more than 12,000 men at work on the Mississippi levees south of Red River putting them in condition.

Minor Mention. A gold mine has been discovered at West Milan, N. H. New York City now has rubber-tired patrol wagons. Spain's four per cent. bonds are selling at 53 cents on the dollar. Three towns of West Virginia have adopted the curfew ordinance.

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

Washington Items.

The Interstate Commerce Commission in a letter to the Committee on Interstate Commerce, points out defects of the Pooling bill, and requests that the powers of the commission be defined. Ex-Postmaster General Horatio King died at his residence in Washington in the eighty-sixth year of his age. The State National Bank, at Logansport, Ind., was closed by National Bank Examiner George B. Caldwell. The capital of the bank is \$200,000, surplus \$55,000, and deposits by last report about \$350,000. The trouble appears to have been caused by loans to J. F. Johnson, the President. Secretary Sherman sent a protest from the German Government against the sugar schedule of the new tariff bill to the Senate. The President sent to the Senate the following nominations: Joseph H. Gaines, to be Attorney of the United States, District of West Virginia; Myron H. McCord, to be Governor of Arizona, and Charles H. Akers, to be Secretary of Arizona Territory. The President nominated Justice William M. Morrow, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Judicial Circuit; George Morgan Thomas, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of Internal Revenue; Frank H. Elbridge to be Chief Engineer in the Navy; Samuel G. Morse to be Agent for the Indians of the West Bay Agency. Many Republican leaders held a conference with Senator Platt in regard to the question of representation in the Greater New York. Domestic. The failure is reported of the First National Bank of Orleans, Neb. Simon Banks, a wealthy farmer and shipowner at Southport, Conn., dropped dead just after discharging a shotgun at a cat. Mr. Banks was sixty-seven years old, and was a sufferer from heart disease. James A. Marks, of Newark, N. J., shot and killed John Sauerbrei, who conducted a delicatessen shop in Bayonne, N. J. Marks attempted to dispossess Sauerbrei illegally from the shop. George Louis Shaw, of Baltimore, was arrested, charged with having aided George Barnard, the dead cashier of the Fort Stanton National Bank of Rome, N. Y., toembezzle or misappropriate \$32,000 of the funds of the bank. The Rev. Dr. Sheldon Jackson was elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly; the retiring Moderator, Dr. Withrow, preached the opening sermon. The Brooklyn Navy Yard band has applied for discharge from the Government service because it has been ordered to accompany the Brooklyn to English waters during the Queen's Jubilee. The Florida House of Representatives has adopted a resolution appointing ex-Senator Call State agent for the collection of an Indian war claim of \$750,000. Marquis Visconti Venosta, the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, suggests reprisals for American tariff duties. A new loan of \$4,000,000 has been sanctioned by the Uruguayan Chamber. The armistice between Greece and Turkey has been fixed at seventeen days. A neutral zone is to be established between the armies. The terms of peace may be the result of long deliberation on the part of the powers. There is talk in Japan of retaliatory measures against the new American tariff. Five cannon, captured by General Scott from General Santa Anna during the Mexican war have been stolen from the West Point (N. Y.) Military Academy grounds. Judge Chester, at Monticello, N. Y., declined to vacate the order granted May 11 with reference to changing the place of taking testimony in the proceedings against the alleged Coal Trust. He did grant an order, however, tending to delay the beginning of the investigation. At San Antonio, Texas, natural gas has been struck at a depth of 600 feet in a well on the County Court House grounds. Mrs. L. C. Elliott, of Nashua, N. H., died of excessive bicycle riding, according to physicians. She spent much of her time on her wheel, and recently cerebro-spinal meningitis developed. By a fire in Jersey City, N. J., six houses were destroyed, eleven badly damaged, and seventy families were rendered homeless. No lives were lost. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. Miss Fannie Richardson, a recluse and miser, died in Taunton, Mass., worth \$50,000. No will has been found, and as far as is known she had no relatives. The Pittsburg jury returned a verdict of acquittal in the case of Lieutenant Edward S. Farrow, charged with conspiring to defraud the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association of New York. The members of the United States Bimetallite Commission are in Paris waiting for the appointment of French delegates by President Faure before they proceed to England. Oscar Wilde, who was sentenced on May 25, 1895, to two years' imprisonment with hard labor, was released from Holloway (England) Prison. He refused \$3000 to write his prison experiences. He will do literary work in London under his own name. Superintendent of Streets Thomas F. Maloney, of Buffalo, N. Y., was convicted of attempting to bribe Superintendent of Police W. S. Bull by offering him \$200 to protect the Goeliet Gambling Club last July. The Presbyterian Union Theological Seminary graduation exercises were held in New York City, and Miss Briggs, daughter of Professor C. A. Briggs, received the degree of Bachelor of Divinity, being the first woman graduate of the seminary. A diver discovered that the leak in the big navy yard dock at Brooklyn is caused by a ten-foot-square hole in the apron outside of the caisson. Much additional damaging evidence has been found against Adolph L. Luetger, the rich sausage manufacturer, of Chicago, Ill., who is accused of murdering his wife and burning her body. Phineas B. Smith, a well-known citizen of Roxbury, Mass., died of heart trouble resulting from overexertion in climbing a hill while riding a bicycle. He was fifty-nine years of age and was a lawyer. Governor Black, of New York, has signed the General Tax Rate bill. The State tax rate for the year is 2.7 mills. The revenues from direct taxation are estimated at \$12,003,792.92, and from indirect taxation at \$10,043,763. The Illinois Battlefield Commission has decided to erect nine monuments each at Lookout Mountain and at the north end of Mission Ridge to the Illinois regiments which participated in these battles. In New York City Helen Horford, left an orphan by the death of her mother, grieved constantly, and committed suicide by hanging. There was a \$25,000 run on the Framingham Savings Bank at South Framingham, Mass. The Government Building at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition was opened. George Bartholomew, an engineer for the Crown Slate Company at Pen Argyl, Penn., was blown to pieces by the explosion of a boiler. Bartholomew is supposed to have fallen asleep and on awakening found the boiler dry and turned on the water, thereby causing the explosion. His sister, when she learned of her brother's death, attempted to commit suicide by throwing herself into the burning boiler house. John Farrell was fined \$5 for planting potatoes on Sunday at Nanuet, N. Y. The Holland, a small vessel owned by her inventor and designed for submarine warfare, was successfully launched at Elizabethport, N. J.

CUBA'S DAY IN CONGRESS

The Morgan Belligerency Resolution Passed by the Senate.

HOUSE ADOPTS RELIEF BILL.

Heated Debates in Both Chambers—In the Senate 19 Republicans, 18 Democrats and 4 Populists Voted to Recognize Cubans as Warring, and 12 Republicans and 2 Democrats Against the Measure.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—The United States Senate passed, after an exciting debate, by a vote of 41 to 14, Mr. Morgan's resolution declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba, that the insurgents be accorded belligerent rights, and that this Government maintain strict neutrality between Spain and her revolted colony. The resolution is as follows: "Joint resolution declaring that a condition of public war exists in Cuba, and that strict neutrality shall be maintained; "Resolved, That a condition of public war exists between the Government of Spain and the Government proclaimed, and for some time maintained by force of arms by the people of Cuba, and that the United States of America shall maintain a strict neutrality between the contending powers, according to each all the rights of belligerents in the ports and territory of the United States. Following is the detailed vote: Yeas—Messrs. Bacon, Baker, Bate, Berry, Butler, Carter, Chandler, Chilton, Clark, Clay, Cockrell, Culom, Davis, Deboe, Foraker, Gallinger, Gorman, Hansbrough, Harris, Kansas, Helfield, Jones, Kenney, Lindsay, McBride, Mantle, Mason, Mills, Morgan, Nelson, Paseo, Pettigrew, Pettis, Pritchard, Rawlins, Shoup, Stewart, Thurston, Tillman, Turner, Turpie, Walhall. Nays—Messrs. Allison, Burrows, Caffery, Fairbanks, Gear, Hale, Hanna, Hawley, Hoar, Spooner, Wellington, Wetmore, White, Wilson—14.

The following pairs were announced, the first named Senator being in favor of the resolution and the second opposed to it: Fairbanks with Elkins, Harvis (Tenn.) with Morrill, McHenry with Platt (New York), Daniel with Gray, Allen with Platt (Conn.), Vest with Nelson, and Roach with Perkins. Murphy, of New York, was absent and unpaired.

RELIEF RESOLUTION PASSED.

Without a Dissenting Voice the House Votes \$50,000.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—After a long debate the House passed, without a dissenting vote, the resolution appropriating \$50,000 for the relief of Americans in Cuba. The Democrats made an ineffectual effort to force consideration of the Morgan resolution for the recognition of the belligerency of the insurgents. They accused the Republicans of endeavoring to evade this issue. There was an interesting passage when Mr. Livingston was declaring that the only sensible course for this Government to end the trouble was by recognizing the Cubans, and Mr. Hitt, the Republican Administration spokesman, interrupted him to ask: "Don't you think it would be better for the President to use his authority to secure independence?" "I do," answered Mr. Livingston, "and now that I have answered your question, answer me. When will the President do that?" Mr. Hitt hesitated, while the House listened intently, and Mr. Livingston pressed him for an answer. "I have no right to speak by any authority," Mr. Hitt began, and, hesitating to word his answer rightly, finally continued: "I have reason to believe that the President is taking as active and effective steps as he can to secure the independence of Cuba, and that, I am convinced, has reached Spanish headquarters, for the news reaches us to-day that the Minister who will proclaim the Cuban war is utterly hopeless."

The debate was closed for the Democratic side by Mr. McMillin, of Tennessee, who declared that two-thirds of the Republicans desired the resolution for recognition. Mr. Hull, of Iowa, and Mr. Brown, of Ohio, closed the debate for the Republicans. Then the resolution was adopted without a dissenting vote.

FATHER KNEIPP DEAD.

The Originator of the Water Cure Succumbs to Lung Trouble.

Father Kneipp, well-known throughout the world through his water cure, is dead. He had been suffering for some days from inflammation of the lungs and received the last sacrament of the Church a week before his death at Worshofen, Suabia. Subsequently, however, he rallied, and it was thought early in the week that he would recover. His sad fate was that all diseases could be cured by walking bare-foot in the dewy grass.

Mother and Children Killed by a Snake. Two children of Edward Driscoll, who lives on a little branch of State Creek, near Pikeville, Ky., were bitten by a copperhead snake. Their cries attracted their mother, who tried to kill the snake, but was bitten herself. All three died within an hour.

To Increase Spain's Army. General de Azcaraga, the Spanish Minister of War, has introduced a bill into the Cortes providing for an increase of the army in Spain to 100,000 men. A semi-official declaration is issued to the effect that Spain will never agree to the sale of Cuba, nor to foreign mediation in "a question which she regards as exclusively concerning herself."

National Home for Lawyers. The Richmond (Va.) City Bar Association proposes to purchase the house where Chief Justice Marshall lived, and make it a National home for lawyers.

FLORIDA'S NEW SENATOR.

Stephen R. Mallory Elected to Succeed Wilkinson Call.

Stephen Russell Mallory, Florida's new representative in the Senate of the United States, to succeed Wilkinson Call, has had an adventurous and successful career. At the early age of sixteen years he entered the Confederate service and, transferred to the navy, served throughout the Civil War as midshipman on the Florida, the rival of the Alabama, the world-famed privateer.



STEPHEN R. MALLORY. (Florida's Senator-elect, and an ardent advocate of free coinage.)

At the close of the war he matriculated at the Georgetown Jesuit College, in the District of Columbia, and was graduated after a four years' classical course. In 1874 he removed to Pensacola, Fla., and engaged in the successful practice of the law. He represented the Pensacola district in the State Legislature, and was then elected to the Fifty-second Congress. Senator Mallory is a typical Southerner, an outspoken Democrat, and will add strength to the silver wing, as he is a bimetalist. His election makes the Senate a tie.

TO JAIL FOR CONTEMPT.

Elverton E. Chapman, the Wall Street Broker, the Contumacious Witness.

Elverton E. Chapman, the New York broker, is one of the most talked of men in America to-day. Mr. Chapman is in contempt of the Senate committee appointed to investigate the scandal concerning United States Senators who were charged with speculating in sugar at the time the



ELVERTON E. CHAPMAN.

Wilson Tariff schedule was under consideration by the Senate. He refused flatly to answer the committee's questions as to whether Senators speculated in sugar at that time. He was tried, found guilty of contempt and sentenced to thirty days in jail, and is now serving his term in the District Jail at Washington.

SENATOR EARLE IS DEAD.

He Passes Away at His Home in South Carolina.

United States Senator Joseph H. Earle died of Bright's disease at his home in Greenville, S. C., on Thursday. Joseph H. Earle, though opposed to Tillman in State politics, stood for the new forces which overthrew the old South Carolina regime. He was practically chosen United States Senator in September of last year. Then Senatorial primaries were held throughout South Carolina and Earle carried the State by a majority of 10,000 over Governor Evans, who was actively championed by Tillman. Mr. Earle was formally elected Senator at the joint session of the two South Carolina Houses on January 27, this year. There was only one Republican in the General Assembly, Anderson, the sole colored man of the House. He voted for George W. Murray. All the other votes in the two houses went for General Earle.

General Earle was thirty-nine years of age, married, and a lawyer. His fellow citizens always spoke of him as the "fighting reformer."

HOBOKEN LOSES NEARLY A MILLION.

Fire Destroys a Block and Makes Six Hundred Persons Homeless.

The greatest fire in the history of Hoboken, N. J., raged all Thursday evening close to the river front and attracted thousands from all parts of New York City to the North River piers to witness the spectacle, many going over the ferry to get a closer view. The block between Washington and Hudson streets and Twelfth and Thirteenth streets was destroyed. It consisted of an immense storage warehouse and factory building and a row of fourteen high class flat houses. The flying embers which filled the air carried the fire to the Hoboken basins, half a mile north, and a number of canal boats moored there were destroyed. Before the great fire was under control not less than six hundred persons had been rendered homeless, fully a thousand thrown out of employment, and property valued at not far from a million dollars destroyed.

New York and Railroad Franchises. Justice Beach, in New York City, handed down a decision denying the injunctions asked to restrain the Eighth Avenue Railroad from changing its motive power. In his opinion, the Justice says, whatever option the city may have had to purchase the franchises is outlawed.

Tried to Wake His Dead Mother. At Shreveport, La., Mrs. J. H. Clatanoff committed suicide by taking morphine after quarreling with her husband. She said he did not love her. She was good looking and twenty-three years old. Her three-year-old son found her dead, and putting his arms around her cried: "Wake up, mamma!"

Fatal Gasoline Explosion. An explosion of gasoline in a St. Louis (Mo.) house caused the death of five persons. Mrs. Mohr poured the fluid over her wood in the stove to make the fire burn faster.

IN THE QUIET HOURS.

PREGNANT THOUGHTS FROM THE WORLD'S GREATEST AUTHORS.

Love Will Perfect—Sowing of Light—How Habit Grows—God's Presence Desired—A Prayer—To Rebuke Sin—Before the Cross—All Rewarding Love of Christ.

O mighty Potter, to whose steadfast eyes A thousand years lie open as one day, Thy patient hand set firm on life's great wheel This heavy, shapeless clay.

Rough and imperfect, yet it owes Thy touch; Spare not, nor stay, the pressure of Thine hand; Make known Thy power; and, soon or late, let love Perfect what love hath planned. —L. H. Hammond, in Outlook.

Sowing Light in Sorrow.

God will not always be causing grief. He traverses the dull brown acres with His plow, sowing the yielding earth that He may be able to cast in the precious grain. Believe that in days of sorrow He is sowing light for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart. Look forward to the reaping. Anticipate the joy which is set before you, and shall flood your heart with minstrel notes when patience has had her perfect work. You will live to recognize the wisdom of God's choice for you. You will one day see that the thing you wanted was only second best. You will be surprised to remember the pain you once nearly broke your heart and split the wine of your life for what would never have satisfied you if you had caught it, as the child the butterfly or soap-bubble. You will meet again your beloved. You will have again your love. You will become possessed of a depth of character, a breadth of sympathy, a fund of patience, an ability to understand and help others, which, as you lay them at Christ's feet for Him to use, will make you glad that you were afflicted. You will see God's plan and purpose; you will reap His harvest; you will behold His face, and be satisfied. —Rev. F. B. Meyer.

How Habit Grows and Strangles.

Mr. Spurgeon says that he saw, while on a visit to the gardens of Hampton Court, many trees almost entirely covered and well-nigh strangled by the huge coils of ivy which were found about them like the snakes about the unhappy Laocoon. There is no untwisting the folds; they in their giant grip are fast fixed, and the rootlets of the climbers are constantly sucking the life of the trees. There was a day when the ivy was a tiny aspirant, only asking a little aid in climbing; had it become frequent, then by degrees the humble weakling grew in strength and arrogance, and at last it assumed the mastery and became the destroyer. Just the same with the beginning or sin; the least little act of disobedience, it may be a lie, then another, then something else, and they become alarmingly frequent, until they gain the mastery over us, and overwhelm us, and at last drag our souls down to hell. "Every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." —C. W. Bibb.

A Prayer for God's Presence.

O Lord, I have come into my closest and shut the door, that I may be alone with thee for a little. O wilt thou meet me and give me a sweet sense of thy presence, and I know how near thou art to hear the petitions I bring thee, thank thee for thy love, so rich and abounding, which years over me uncasingly. I thank thee for the tender sympathy, which reaches down to all the varying circumstances of my daily life, bringing needed help and peace. I thank thee that thou dost understand the desires and longings of my heart before I have ventured to express them in words, and that sometimes thou dost answer before I call. Bless me in my home and in the conduct of my family duties. Bless the dear children thou hast given me, and lead them in unerring ways of obedience and love, and hold them in right paths. May they love thee and count thee as their best friend and strive to please thee in all they do, day by day. So may our entire household rejoice in thee, and find it our supreme privilege to follow thee in ways of praise and service for Christ's sake. Amen.

A Prayer for the Spirit.

Most holy God! let not the largeness of our sins and errors make us forget the largeness of thy mercy; our great need the greatness of thy supply. Teach us to trust in thy love. Help us when we seem to be orphans in this world that grinds on with such sternness of unbroken law. Comfort us if in the midst of the vastness of thy kingdom we cannot help thinking we are forgotten; if our poor cry seems unable to pierce through the rolling majesty of thy worlds. In the hours of our loneliness and forsaken days, let the Good Shepherd come unto us, for he knoweth his sheep by name. Forgive our sins, and let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; such beauty as we can bear, not the burning beauty of thy brightness and thy majesty, for we are all too weak and feeble for that, but the gentle beauty of thy holiness and purity. Hear our prayers through thy dear Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Rebuke Sin by Righteousness.

We may not all be called upon to speak; we are all called upon to be. You can shine, and by shining show how dark the darkness is. The obligation is laid upon us all; the commandment still comes to every Christian which was given to the old prophet, "Declare unto My people their transgressions, and to the house of Jacob their sin." We can all rebuke sin by our righteousness, and by our shining reveal the darkness to itself. We do not walk as children of the light unless we keep ourselves from all continuance with works of darkness, and by all means at our disposal reprove and convict them. "Come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch no unclean thing, saith the Lord." —Alexander MacLaren, D. D.

Before the Cross.

O, what a load of struggle and distress Falls off before the cross! The feverish care, The sick regrets, the yearnings numberless, The thought, "This might have been," so apt to press On the reluctant soul; even past despair, Past sin itself, all, all is turned to fair, Aye, to a scheme of ordered happiness, So soon as we love God, or, rather, know That God loves us! —C. H. Townsend.

Christ's All Pervading Love.

The love of Jesus Christ is to be seen in that warm affection for him which leads the faithful to wish that his soul may become almost a part of that of Christ, and that the living principle in the Lord may be reproduced in himself, not in the way of an external image but as an inward and divine inspiration. This love is omnipotent, uniting the creature with the Creator. Man, in fact, rises out of his humanity to something divine when he is animated by this love, which is the sweetest of affections, penetrates the soul, and causes the faithful to walk on earth, rapt as it were in the spirit. —Seronarola.

We know not, verily, that which is laid up for us. There are such beautiful things put by. In God's house and in God's time there are such treasures. —Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.